

**MINUTES**  
**Edgefield County Council Meeting**  
**August 6, 2002**

The regular meeting of the Edgefield County Council was held at 6:00 P. M. Tuesday, August 6, 2002, in the County Council Chambers, 225 Jeter St., Edgefield. Chairman Kneece called the meeting to order and he also gave the invocation. The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was recited.

**Members present:**

C. Monroe Kneece, Chairman  
Willie C. Bright, Vice Chairman  
Norman Dorn, Councilman  
Joel Hudson, Councilman  
William R. Vaughan, Councilman

**Others present:**

Wayne Adams, County Administrator  
John F. Byrd, County Attorney  
Barbara R. Stark, Clerk to Council  
and others as per list attached

**Minutes**

Motion was made by Councilman Bright to approve the July 2, 2002, minutes of the regular meeting of the Edgefield County Council. Motion seconded by Councilman Dorn. Motion carried unanimously.

**Reports**

All reports passed.

**Old Business**

Motion was made by Councilman Vaughan, seconded by Councilman Hudson, to approve third reading of Ordinance No. 01-02-22, An Ordinance Providing for a Five-Year Extension of the Investment Period for Mount Vernon Mills, Inc. Under It's Lease Agreement with Edgefield County Pursuant to Section 4-12-30 (C) (2), Code of Laws of South Carolina 1976, As Amended." Motion carried unanimously. A Public Hearing on this ordinance was held prior the council meeting.

Councilman Vaughan made a motion to accept the second reading of Ordinance No. 01-02-424, "An Ordinance Adopting a Revised Strategic Plan for Economic Development for Edgefield County." The motion was seconded by Councilman Hudson. Motion carried unanimously. A Public Hearing on this ordinance was held prior to the council meeting.

**MINUTES**  
**Edgefield County Council Meeting**  
**August 6, 2002**

The motion to accept second reading of Ordinance No. 01-02-425, "An Ordinance Enacting and Adopting a Supplement to the Code of Ordinance for Edgefield County, SC" was made by Councilman Bright, seconded by Councilman Dorn. Motion carried unanimously. A Public Hearing on this ordinance was held prior to the council meeting.

The next item under Old Business was Mr. Jack Tiller, Chairman Pro Tem, Edgefield County Chamber of Commerce. Mr. Tiller thanked council for allowing him to come before them. He asked that the dollar amount in his request (\$10,000) be disregarded. He said the Chamber understands with the economy as such and with the situation in Johnston (EPI) (which they lost as a chamber member, cost them some money as well). He did ask council for consideration of any additional funds above the normal appropriation that council could provide to them. Mr. Tiller said that he feels the Chamber in the last two years has done more to promote Edgefield County than it has in the history of the Chamber of Commerce. Council assisted the Chamber (last year) in putting out a brochure that was given to all of the Welcome Centers; published a new lifestyle guide; jointly helped to put an article in the Sandlapper Magazine by raising the money to do that; staffed booths and provided handouts for the LPGA Golf Tournament; had a "tee" party where some of the golfers participating in that tournament were present; Augusta TV stations in town doing newscast from the square. Promoting costs money, but you have to promote the county to get people to come visit. Last year the Chamber received \$7,500 from the county; \$7,000 appropriated and \$500 for the brochures. The \$7,000 is part of the \$40,000 appropriation for organizations who come and make these requests. It is in the recreation budget (806-279). Consideration is on a case to case basis. Mr. Kneece stated that the \$40,000 will not carry through on all of the requests. No increases will be given to any other entities. Motion was made by Chairman Kneece, seconded by Councilman Hudson, to approve a \$7,000 appropriation to the EC Chamber of Commerce. Motion carried unanimously.

Council next considered its CDBG application for the fall cycle. The Edgefield County Senior Citizens Center and the SC Highway 283 water line are both potential projects for the county. The county can only submit one application. Councilman Dorn spoke in favor of the water line. He stated there are about one hundred (100) families and people that have a desperate need for water. With the drought over the past four or five years, even with the individuals who have water now, there is no guarantee they will continue to have water. Mr. Hayward Bussey and Mr. Sam Crouch, Jr. spoke in favor of the water line. They live in that particular area. Mr. Bussey stated they have had no problem with water until the last few years. Several wells have already gone dry. He has three houses, only one well; two of them are dry, using one well for two houses and there is no guarantee that one well will continue. He asked council to consider them having the opportunity to get water in that area. Mr. Crouch thanked council for the opportunity to speak before council. He stated that when this was first mentioned to him a few weeks ago, he was asked if a water line should be installed on 283 would he sign on. "Immediately," he said.

**MINUTES**  
**Edgefield County Council Meeting**  
**August 6, 2002**

Appreciated the work that many of the people in his community had done to pursue this project and to get funding for it. It was his original interpretation or understanding that the Senior Citizens Council was not going to apply for this – that it was put on hold at this time. So originally we did not know there would be a competition for this funding and we started the process of trying to get it and would appreciate council's consideration. His well is not dry but dropping fast. Councilman Hudson said he certainly had concerns about people having problems with water, no matter what end of the county they are. A concern he does have, too, is with the Water & Sewer Authority. What is the Water Authority saying as far as running this line themselves; we have this many people, just like Mr. Rainsford said, are not they going to make money from this if they run the water line? The Administrator said that the Water & Sewer Authority had studied the CDBG and from that the expected costs would be \$562,214. The CDBG would be good for only \$500,000 and they are expecting the council to come up with the additional \$62,214. The question that council might put to the Water Authority is "if the grant is approved, why wouldn't the Water Authority pay the \$62,214.00?" Chairman Kneece feels that if council would go to the Water Authority and tell them that if the county gets the grant money, then the Authority will have to come up with the money. Mr. Kneece said he felt the Authority could do that out of their profit; if not, all they would have to do is put a \$0.50 fee on it and make it back in a few months. Between the tap fees, water bills, etc., this could be paid for within a few months. Councilman Vaughan: "I am very sympathetic to all of these people on 283. There are also other roads in Edgefield County that probably have the same problem. What will we do next month when they come in and they need water; it is just what we were talking about earlier. I would like to know if we have a plan for serving the other parts of the county (Northside, Westside). All of them have the same problem. As the drought continues, it is going to be worst for everybody. My feelings are, maybe I am wrong, but I thought this CDBG was sought after strictly for the Senior Citizens Center. Is that not what it was initially sought after?" The Administrator said that it has been applied for previously under CDBG but there are water projects applied for under the CDBG. It is probably a majority of the kinds of projects that are applied for." Councilman Bright asked John Pettigrew, Jr. (was on committee at Upper Savannah COG when this was considered) to explain how these grants work. Mr. Pettigrew: "CDBG stands for Community Development Block Grant. Mr. Adams is correct, the majority of them are water and sewer projects throughout the state. Some are home improvement projects and occasionally a project like the Senior Citizens Center. What happens, the seven counties in the Upper Savannah submit their projects (county government can submit or the town government can submit it) to the committee. They are ranked by Upper Savannah, then sent to the state and the state ranks the ones according to their criteria and funds as many as they can. These projects being discussed are eligible. The Senior Citizens, if I am not mistaken, have submitted twice before and it wasn't ranked high enough to get funded." Councilman Bright stated there are two funding cycles. He wanted to know how much money was in the second funding

**MINUTES**  
**Edgefield County Council Meeting**  
**August 6, 2002**

Cycle. Mr. Pettigrew said yes there are two a year but there is no set amount, but the second one is not as much as the first one. Some of the projects that were not funded in the first one, they will roll them over to the second one and they may get funded in the second cycle. No guarantee of that though. Mr. Bright said, "in other words, our project will compete with seven other projects. Then will have to compete at the state level." The chairman asked Mr. Pettigrew if he thought the larger project has a better chance out of the first cycle in January. More money involved in the first cycle but it is according to which project ranks the highest gets the most and the size of the project doesn't effect how it is ranked. Mr. Pettigrew said one thing that is looked at is the impact (how many people will this impact); community support for the project; amount of other funding for the project. Mr. Adams said he understood from Upper Savannah that if the County or the Water & Sewer put more money into it, it would increase the ranking. The Chairman asked Mr. Jim Griffith, Senior Citizens Council, if he would like to speak. Mr. Griffith wanted Council to know that he was not here to discount the water and sewer, not opposed to that. They have applied twice for the CDBG. The first time there was some data not completed, the second time did not have all of the funding. This time the funding is complete (\$800,000 in the bank); assurances for \$1,000,000.00 from the Rural Development, asking for the \$500,000 and we have very positive feedback from the powers that be on this go round they would fund us. That is why we would like to go in September because we have everything in place, the plans have been drawn and would like to break ground. The impact it would have on the county will be that we will be putting an additional forty (40) people to work. Also, will have an adult day care (now carrying senior citizens to Greenwood, Aiken, Saluda). Many of these people are elderly—are in diapers. Hauling them forty and fifty miles per day, which Mr. Griffith stated, in his opinion, is criminal. That facility should be here in Edgefield, if we can get the \$500,000 (could settle for \$400,000) but would like to have the extra money. Could break ground this winter. We serve on a daily basis about 175 home delivered meals; about thirty people they do homemakers service for; another fifteen people they do adult day care for; about seventy five meals served on site on a daily basis. With the addition of the new facility they believe they will increase that by 30%. Also, have been funded by the Highway Department. What is not known is that Edgefield County Senior Citizens is the public transportation carrier in Edgefield County. We carry sixty to seventy people to work everyday-public transportation. Funds from the Highway Department; have received \$100,000 federal earmarked that we will build a transportation hub where we will have twenty vehicles daily that can provide public transportation all over Edgefield. Now there is a route daily from Edgefield to Aiken to Augusta; Edgefield to Saluda and back everyday. The fee is \$5.00. We have not pushed that but all of that transportation hub will come together and be in that facility. Expect to pick up some additional funds on this also. Councilman Vaughan asked the Administrator that what he (administrator) is aware of at this time with the water department is that they are installing water lines down Highway 19 at this time. How many more projects do they have on the books they

**MINUTES**  
**Edgefield County Council Meeting**  
**August 6, 2002**

will need to work on before they could get to this project? The Administrator said that he understands they have a number of long-range projects. The more immediate projects that the Administrator is aware of have to do with the tobacco settlement money; that is Highway 19, Moore Road off Sweetwater Road, and one other location. Councilman Vaughan then stated to submit the Senior Citizens now and then submit the Highway 283 water line in the second cycle (get it in line with the other water & sewer projects now in place). The next cycle would begin around March or April, 2003. Funding would possibly be available around July of 2003. Councilman Vaughan asked how the forty additional full-time people for the Center would be paid. Mr. Griffith stated the funding would come from medicaid, private pay, veterans. Will be charging \$50.00 for adult care. That money is going out of the county now. Motion was made by Councilman Dorn, seconded by Councilman Bright, to submit an application for the water line on Highway 283 through the CDBG. Motion carried with Councilmen Vaughan and Hudson opposing.

**New Business**

The first item under new business was a request from the Edgefield County Historical Society concerning the placement of historical markers on Courthouse property. Mr. Bettis Rainsford was present to ask council's permission to place these markers in the front of the Courthouse. A marker bearing the history of the courthouse would be placed on the lower right side underneath the steps (recessed area). Would like to erect two other markers (one on each side) of the door leading underneath the steps of the courthouse. Would propose to put in there markers detailing two events in our history, which are rather colorful; the story of Becky Cotton, or the Devil in Petticoats, and secondly the Wigfall Carroll Brooks Shootout of 1840. Mr. Rainsford gave handouts to the council of the wording for each marker. No cost to the county. Motion was made by Councilman Vaughan, seconded by Council Hudson, to approve Mr. Rainsford's request to place history markers. Motion carried unanimously. Also, Mr. Rainsford stated the Historical Society would like to put markers on the side of the library building going down the hill. He did not know if he should address the library board on this request or county council. These markers would depict 'pottery' sites of Edgefield County. Since the library building is a county building, Councilman Vaughan made the motion to approve this request also. Councilman Hudson seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion was made by Councilman Vaughan, seconded by Councilman Bright, to approve Resolution No. 02-03-252, "A Resolution to Express the Intention of the County Council of Edgefield County, SC, to Cause Edgefield County to Be Reimbursed for Certain Costs for the Purchase of Road Maintenance Equipment (Dump Truck) with the Proceeds of Tax-Exempt Obligations." Motion carried. This is apart from the \$10.00 fee money. The Council budgeted \$25,000 for this current budget year for a lease-purchase payment on a dump truck. Proposing under this reimbursement resolution is that we go ahead and buy the truck so the road department can begin using it, and we will reimburse ourselves with

**MINUTES**  
**Edgefield County Council Meeting**  
**August 6, 2002**

the proceeds of the lease-purchase agreement. The \$25,000 will be used for the first installment payment (all principal and interest payments for the current fiscal year).

Motion was made by Councilman Bright, seconded by Councilman Dorn, to approved first reading of Ordinance No. 02-03-426, "An Ordinance Authorizing the Negotiation, Execution and Delivery of a Lease-Purchase Financing Agreement or Agreements Pertaining to Road Maintenance Equipment and Other Related Documents Between Edgefield County, SC and a Qualifying Lender; and Other Matters Relating Thereto." Motion carried.

Mr. Steve Balentine, President of the Johnston/Edgefield Dixie Girl Softball, addressed Council to request funding of \$2,600 for the Dixie Softball League; same amount the Council funded them last year. A financial statement had been received from the Mr. Balentine. Councilman Vaughan questioned the 405 account on the financial statement. \$7,500 had been transferred, showing a zero balance. Did not see the \$7,500 transferred to another account. Mr. Balentine said he would find out from Mr. Andy Livingston, CPA. Councilman Vaughan one account (income) \$12,508.00. Steve stated that currently they have \$10,000 in the account earmarked for the new field when they start at Watson Park (softball only). That will be for the infrastructure; that money was donated by corporations and individuals. Of that \$12,000, \$10,000 is earmarked for the field and \$2,000 for-at this point Councilman Vaughan asked if admission was charged for the games. "Absolutely not. This is according to the Dixie Youth franchise. Unless it is a tournament, no admission can be charged. It costs the League approximately, depending on the number of girls playing, number of teams, uniforms, equipment, from \$8,500 to \$9,500 a year to put on the program. Currently funded \$5,000 from the United Way; \$500 from the town of Johnston; town of Edgefield graciously lets us use the field here behind the gym, they provide the labor and lights-we buy the field-marking line. Those are our main sources, plus we try to keep the participation fee to a minimum so we don't exclude anybody. Usually end the year with anywhere between \$1,500 and \$2,000 above the \$10,000 that we have for field. Motion was made by Councilman Vaughan, seconded by Councilman Bright, to approve the \$2,600 to the Johnston/Edgefield Dixie Girl Softball for the FY 2002-03. Motion carried.

Council reviewed the following bids received for a Boundary & Topographical Survey for the detention center master plan:

<b>Walker, Parr &amp; Assoc.</b>	<b>\$9,500</b>
<b>Power Engineering Co.</b>	<b>\$8,950</b>
<b>Hass &amp; Hilderbrand</b>	<b>\$8,500</b>

**MINUTES**  
**Edgefield County Council Meeting**  
**August 6, 2002**

Chairman Kneece asked the Administrator if it was necessary to do this before council decides on the renovation? Mr. Adams stated that if we are to have a master plan we have to have the Boundary & Topo. This includes the area around the jail and the law enforcement center, property owned by the county across Railroad Street that goes out to Highway 23 and Penn St. Looking at where we could build additional facilities. One of the things that is under consideration by the architects is an alternative housing units for sentenced inmates where those inmates could be segregated from the maximum security part of the facility and used to go out and do work projects on a daily basis. The consensus of council was that the bids were too high; is the Survey really necessary; extended study on this before committing. Motion was made by Councilman Kneece, seconded by Councilman Vaughan, to postpone until the September meeting. Motion carried.

Council received a request for its consideration of reappointment of Mr. Michael Medlock to the Zoning Board of Appeals. Mr. Medlock's term has expired but he is willing to serve another three-year term. Motion was made by Councilman Bright, seconded by Councilman Hudson, to approve Mr. Medlock serving another three-year term on the Zoning Board of Appeals. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion was made by Councilman Hudson, seconded by Councilman Bright, to approve the contract and charges between Aiken County and Edgefield County for Animal Control Services in Edgefield County. Motion carried unanimously.

**Claims approved as follows:**

**A. Payroll: 6-24-02 thru 7-7-02**

Regular.....\$83,494.07

**Payroll: 7-8-02 thru 7-21-02**

Regular.....\$85,632.93

**B. General Operating.....\$169,127.00**

**No guests.**

**Executive Session**

Council convened in executive session pursuant to Code Section §30-4-70 (a) (2), South Carolina Code of Laws to receive legal advice concerning a threatened or potential claim

**MINUTES**  
**Edgefield County Council Meeting**  
**August 6, 2002**

against the county. Council will return to regular session at the discretion of the Chairman.

Returning to regular session the Chairman stated there was no action taken. The attorney gave an update on the concern and he will have more information, hopefully to finalize, by the September County Council meeting.

There being no further business a motion made by Councilman Dorn, seconded by Councilman Hudson, to adjourn. The next regular meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, September 3, 2002.

---

C. Monroe Kneece, Chairman

---

Willie C. Bright, Vice Chairman

---

Norman Dorn, Councilman

---

Joel Hudson, Councilman

---

William R. Vaughan, Councilman

ATTEST

---

Barbara R. Stark, Clerk to Council